

October 19, 2004

Name  
Municipality  
Address  
Town, State Zip Code

Re: Kick-Off Meeting  
Hackensack Meadowlands  
Floodplain Management Plan Committee Formation  
FEMA 2004 Community Rating System (CRS)

Dear Name:

As you may be aware, the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission (NJMC) participates on your behalf in the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA's) Community Rating System (CRS). This program is voluntary and recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) requirements.

Incentives for participation include **flood insurance premium discounts** and **priority for Federal funding for flood control projects**. Property owners and tenants in the Hackensack Meadowlands District **currently enjoy a discount** due to the continued efforts by the NJMC to exceed the program requirements.

Under the CRS guidelines, the NJMC is responsible for the preparation, adoption, implementation, evaluation, and maintenance of a comprehensive Floodplain Management Plan (the "Plan"). It is our goal to achieve the maximum permissible CRS point total for the Plan in an effort to pursue **further insurance discounts in the future and substantially reduce flooding**.

The required components of the Plan include the organization of a Plan Committee comprised of representatives from the municipalities and the public; coordination with local and regional agencies; hazard assessment and the development of mitigation goals and measures; the preparation and adoption of a Plan; and long term review and evaluation of the resulting Plan.

**The first step in the planning process is the development of a Floodplain Management Plan Committee.** This Committee will be responsible for guiding the development of local flood remediation goals, objectives and remediation priorities. **Your attendance is critical** for allowing your local stormwater quantity and quality concerns to be presented and addressed in the final Plan.

The planning process will take approximately 10 months, with meetings conducted on a monthly basis. The process includes the following 10 steps:

1. Organization of the Plan Committee;
2. Outreach to the "Public";
3. Coordination with other related local, regional, State and Federal agencies;
4. Assessment of local hazards;
5. Assessment of local problems created by hazards;
6. Establishment of year-one and long term goals;
7. Development of remedial activities;
8. Creation of draft Plan;
9. Adoption of Plan; and
10. Implementation and Revision by the Committee of the Final Plan.

The kick-off meeting will be held on Thursday, October 28, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. in the Meadowlands Environmental Center, Two DeKorte Park Plaza, Lyndhurst, New Jersey. Directions have been attached for your convenience.

We look forward to your attendance. Please call Margaret Wernli at 201-460-4637 to reserve your place. Should you have any questions regarding this matter or if special requirements are needed under the Americans with Disabilities Act, please contact Nicholas Agnoli at 201-460-1096.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Ceberio  
Executive Director

Attch.